

# APPENDIX G

## LANDSCAPE CHARACTER GUIDELINES



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# CAMPUS ZONES

The Stephen F. Austin State University (SFA) campus is an established, diverse, and interconnected environment composed of distinct zones, each supporting a specific set of academic, residential, and recreational functions. These zones have been delineated in this document to guide long-term landscape planning that responds to their projected growth, unique patterns of use, safety considerations, flexibility for outdoor programming, and overall aesthetic character.

Design strategies within each campus zone are further described in this document to serve as the starting point and minimum standard for new development.

## GARDENS & TRAILS

With over 138 acres of gardens and open space, this zone serves as the ecological lungs and recreational edge of the campus, connecting students and visitors with the region's natural heritage. The landscapes here are intentionally immersive, supporting passive recreation such as community events, outdoor learning, or simply walking through the gardens. Safety, accessibility, and comfort are addressed through clear trail hierarchy, outdoor furniture, lighting, and signage.

## EDUCATION

This zone includes academic buildings with classrooms, lecture halls, labs, and the library. The landscape character supports collaboration, wayfinding, and accessibility. A

hierarchy of walkways interconnects buildings and users with open spaces, quads, malls, plazas, and courtyards supporting pedestrian movement, outdoor study, interdisciplinary crossover, and academic events. Pedestrian safety is critical, with clear crosswalks, lighting, and emergency vehicle access enhancing connectivity, visibility, and day-to-day ease.

## FACILITIES

This service-oriented zone supports campus operations and infrastructure. It prioritizes function, safety, and screening. Materials are utilitarian but consistent with the broader campus aesthetic. Vegetative buffers and fencing help mitigate visual impacts, while clear circulation routes and designated parking ensure safe movement and minimize obstruction of service vehicles and pedestrians.

## HOUSING & DINING (CENTRAL AND PERIPHERAL)

As a residential and social hub, this zone is designed to accommodate high daily activity volumes. Landscape spaces support both formal and informal gatherings, with flexible lawns, plazas, courtyards, and shaded seating areas with flexible outdoor space adjacent to dining halls and residence halls. The design prioritizes flexibility of use and emphasizes safety through lighting and clear wayfinding, while the planting design offers seasonal color and comfort for year-round use. The

aesthetic of this zone is comfortable, fun, flexible, and intentional, with amenities such as hammocks, conversation swings, and large tables contributing to a sense of connectivity, collaboration, and belonging.

## FINE ARTS, FILM, & MEDIA ARTS

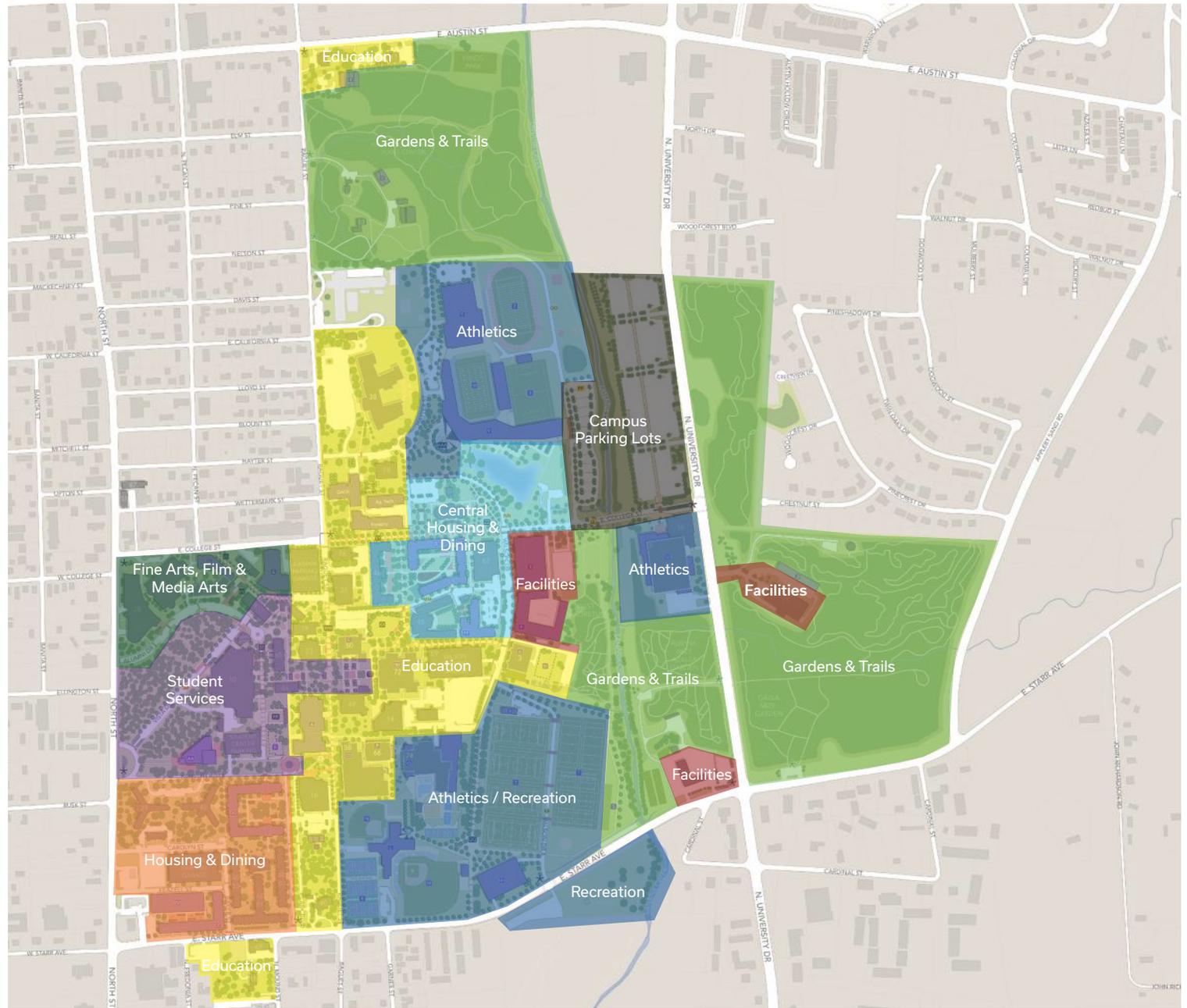
This area supports both academic learning and SFA's artistic identity. Outdoor spaces are flexible and visually interesting, with infrastructure to support art, such as sculptures, murals, pop-up events, and collaborative work. The landscape blends modern materials with native plantings, creating a contemporary and resilient aesthetic that highlights the existing architecture.

## STUDENT SERVICES

As the front door to campus, this zone is highly welcoming and historic. It includes some of the most important buildings, like the Austin Building (administrative offices) and the Pearman Alumni Center. It is also a part of the campus tour route for prospective students and visitors.

This campus zone is home to some of the most mature trees and conifers, highlighting SFA's spirit and commitment to the environment. Wayfinding, lighting, ADA accessibility, and pedestrian safety are critical to ensuring that every visitor can navigate and engage with campus resources and the landscape with ease.

- Gardens & Trails
- Athletics & Recreation
- Education
- Facilities
- Central Housing & Dining
- Fine Arts, Film, & Media Arts
- Student Services
- Housing & Dining
- Campus Parking Lots



**Map 1.** Campus Zones

Scale: N.T.S. N  
●

# TREE PRESERVATION AND MITIGATION

## EXISTING TREE PRESERVATION

The SFA campus is home to a well-established, diverse framework of existing trees, native plantings, gardens, and trails that contribute significantly to its identity. This framework will be prioritized and built upon when new infrastructure is created on campus. During planning and construction of new projects, existing trees should be carefully evaluated, documented, and protected when feasible to avoid unnecessary tree removal. All renovation and new construction projects that impact significant tree canopies and root zones must be reviewed in collaboration with SFA staff, including the campus arborist and grounds manager, to evaluate design feasibility and opportunities for tree preservation. Tree preservation practices include fenced tree protection zones, proper root protection methods, and minimizing grading within the tree's critical root zone.

## TREE MITIGATION

When tree removal is unavoidable, the design team must consider mitigation strategies that equal or far exceed the targeted tree canopy conditions. For every tree removed, replacement trees can be planted in proportionate size and quantity elsewhere on campus or as approved by SFA's staff, including the campus arborist and grounds manager, using species appropriate to the site's character and micro-climate. The use

of native and regionally adapted species is strongly encouraged, and monocultures are discouraged, particularly in large planting efforts.

Instead, native and low-water-use tree species and plantings should be installed to create a diverse planting palette that complements the microclimates created by new structures. Reference the Appendix section in this document for the recommended Plant Palette list of species. These landscape areas should incorporate plants that support pollinators, are adaptable, and provide seasonal interest, with a strong backbone of evergreen species. The design intent should not only restore what is lost but also actively improve the building's surroundings and sustainability, and further expand the identity of the campus landscape.

## TREE TRANSPLANTING AND PRUNING

In cases where construction conflicts with healthy, high-value trees, transplanting should be considered as a first alternative to removal. When feasible, trees that can be successfully relocated should be moved to appropriate areas of campus where they can continue to contribute to the campus landscape character. All tree moving must be vetted with SFA staff, including the campus arborist and grounds manager, prior to pursuing.

Transplanting should consider the tree's size, health, and branching/root structure, and

Relocation should be performed under the supervision of a certified arborist.

Additionally, selective pruning may be considered to allow for construction access or clearance while preserving the tree's long-term health and structural integrity. Pruning should be done under the supervision of the campus arborist and grounds manager.



Austin Building

# CIRCULATION

## WALKWAYS

Walkways are the linkages between buildings, quads, courtyards, plazas, and roadways. These “people movers” are meant to be of a width that accommodates the anticipated volume of pedestrians or multimodal uses, typically 4’-8’ wide, with 6’ being the preferred standard width for narrow walkways, 8’-15’ wide for average-width walkways, and up to 26’ wide for life/safety access, which double as significant mall and multimodal pathways. Places to sit, rest, or gather should be located along walkways to activate their use.

The articulation of paving for each of these connectors is a substantial aesthetic statement on campus. The width and type of detailing of these walkways signals their significance among the network of campus circulation.

The average-width and life/safety access pathways should feature paver banding that can be combined with a percentage of broom-finish/scored concrete. Seating nooks consist of paver fields.

Narrow walkways are to be broom-finish concrete. All other paving design should be reviewed and approved by SFA’s staff, including the grounds manager, to ensure appropriate aesthetic and maintenance practices.

It is important to curve or angle path intersections to reduce the “cut through” damage to turf or plantings, as pedestrians and vehicles do not naturally make 90-degree

turns. Diagonal concrete paths can also be helpful in accommodating “point A to point B” patterns of movement across quads and reduce future desire lines.

### RED BRICK SIGNIFICANCE

The historic red brick streets of downtown Nacogdoches were a crucial part of the agreement that brought Stephen F. Austin State University to the city. In 1917, the state of Texas selected Nacogdoches as the location for a new teachers’ college. To help secure the college, the citizens of Nacogdoches promised to donate 208 acres of land and pave 8 miles of city streets with red brick.

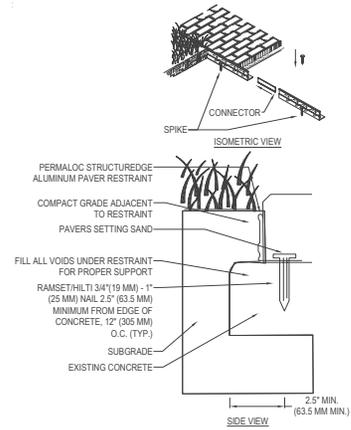
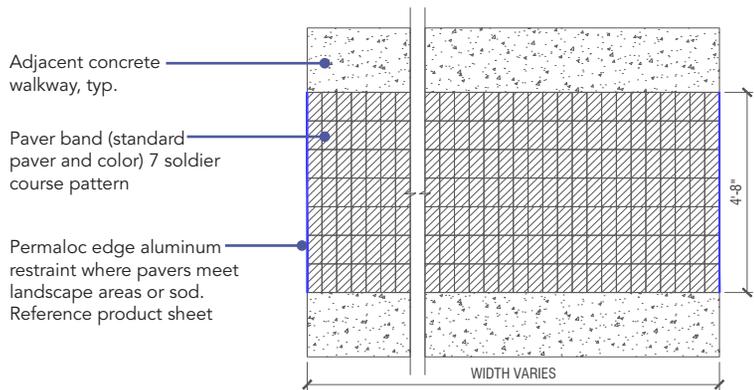
When the paving project began in 1922 and 1923, brick streets were a modern advancement over the city’s old dirt and wooden-block roads, making travel easier for the growing community.

While the university has grown far beyond its original campus, the red brick streets in the downtown area have remained an iconic symbol of the city’s rich history. The downtown district is now on the National Register of Historic Places.

Today, the university continues to recognize its connection to the historic brick streets. The inclusion of red brick pavers into the university’s landscape serves as an enduring landmark to the Nacogdoches community and the people who have stewarded the university’s growth for more than a century.

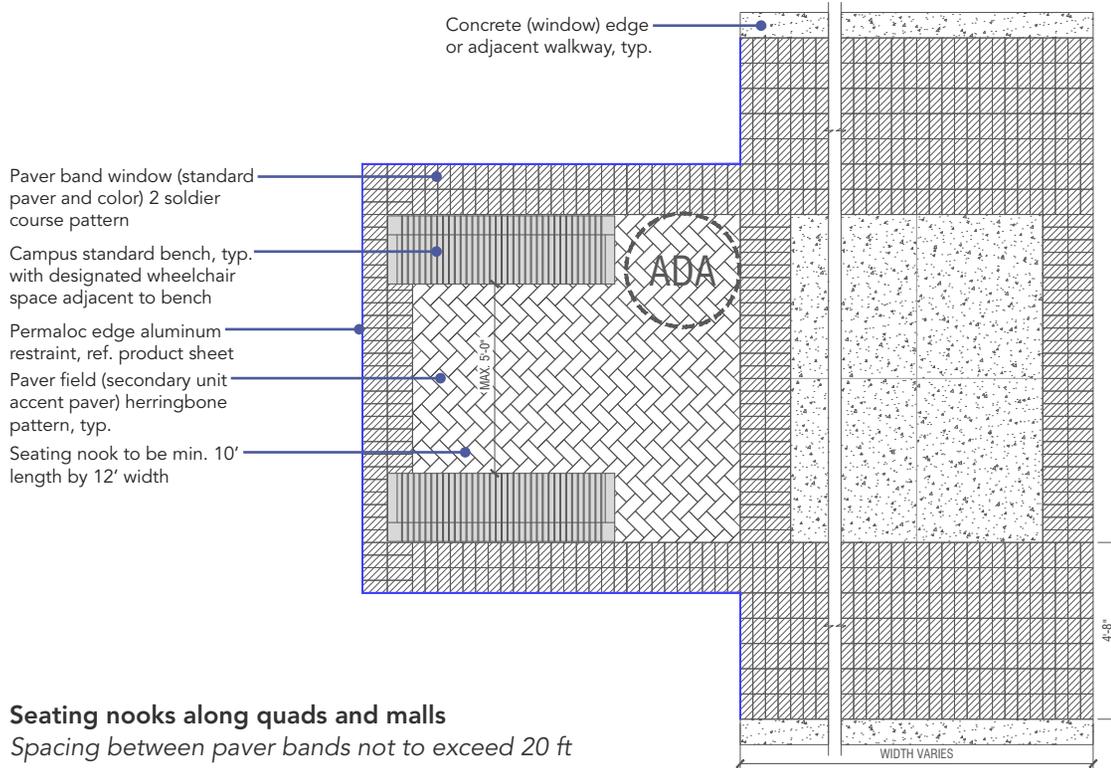
## PAVER STANDARDS

- Pavers to be light-duty for pedestrian walkways and heavy-duty for multimodal walkways, vehicular access, and fire lanes. **Depth of pavers listed below is dependent on use/application.**
- Standard pavers to be 4” x 8” in size. “Coppertone” in color by Endicott or approved equal. **No pavers on campus should be color white.**
- Accent unit pavers to be 4” x 8” wire cut texture. “Red Blend” in color by Endicott or approved equal.
- Accent unit pavers are to be used in special locations (as specified and approved by SFA) such as plazas and courtyards.
- Secondary accent unit pavers to be 4” x 8”. Color to be mutually agreed upon with SFA.
- All pavers to be set on a concrete base properly reinforced per the engineer’s recommendations.
- Pavers adjacent to landscape areas shall have metal edge restraint anchored to concrete base.
- Polymeric sand shall be used on bed setting and joint filler.



**Paver bands along quads and malls**  
*Spacing between paver bands not to exceed 20 ft*

**Permaloc paver edge restraint**  
*Anchored to concrete base*



**Seating nooks along quads and malls**  
*Spacing between paver bands not to exceed 20 ft*



**Existing paver banding along pedestrian malls**  
*Soldier course paver window*  
*Note: White pavers no longer allowed*



**Seating Nook area along pedestrian mall**  
*Field of pavers*

## FIRE & VEHICULAR ACCESS

Emergency vehicle access throughout campus is a life safety requirement that often informs the final landscape design. To lessen their visual impact, these access lanes should consider the use of gravel pave, grass pave, or pavers on a concrete base. Emergency lanes require heavy-duty concrete and vehicular-rated pavers. Emergency lanes should comply with the applicable local codes and standards for SFA.

All fire lanes must be appropriately marked on the curbs and curb ends, or as required by the local code. If a fire lane is required but no continuous curb exists, then mounted signage, alternate painting, or collapsible bollards are required to prevent unauthorized vehicle access. The local fire department shall review all building projects. Fire lane markings/signage must be approved by the local Fire Marshall.

## MAJOR VEHICULAR CIRCULATION

Major campus streets serve as the primary internal circulation network supporting every day access. These streets should follow existing campus standards for one-way or two-way traffic, with the same paving material. Where feasible, street trees, and planting medians should be incorporated or as directed by SFA.

## CAMPUS SERVICE VEHICULAR CIRCULATION AND PARKING

Service roads, exclusively for maintenance access within the garden and trail zones, should be discreet, narrow paths, typically 10- to 14-foot-wide, depending on the existing topography or vegetation. They should blend into the landscape to discourage general vehicle use. Final location and paving materials should be approved by SFA's ground manager.

Utility vehicle routes and parking should also be coordinated with campus leadership and grounds manager. The parking of utility vehicles should be integrated into every design and coordinated with the project architect to match the building style and create readily identifiable parking spots for the drivers to minimize pedestrian/vehicular conflicts.

## PEDESTRIAN SAFETY AND ACCESSIBILITY

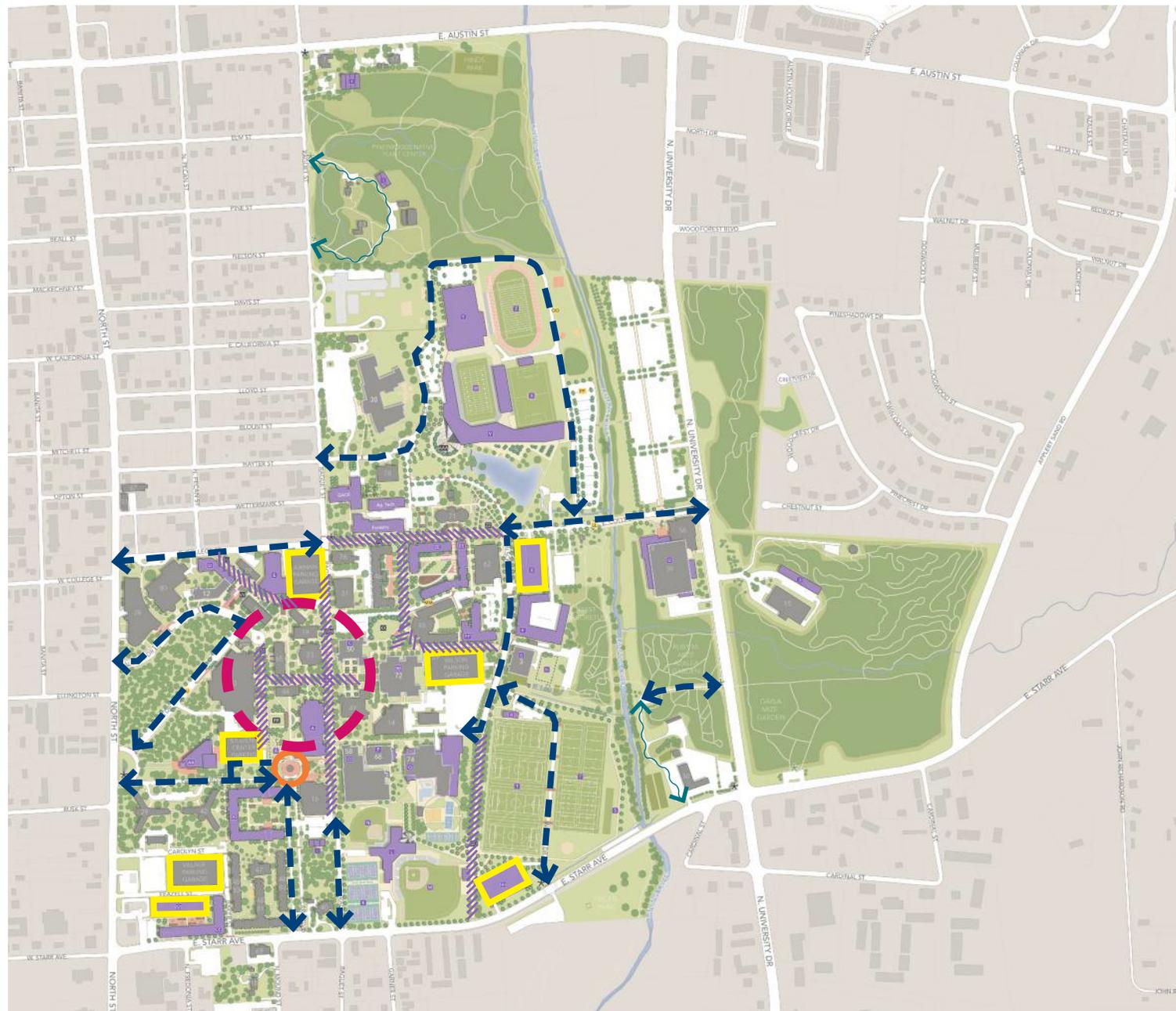
Light fixtures at pedestrian malls and gathering spaces shall meet SFA's required illumination level of 1-foot candle. All pedestrian poles need GFCI receptacles.

Light fixtures and tree canopies should not be in conflict. Special consideration should be taken to accurately predict the mature canopy of trees when determining the light fixture and/or tree spacing and location.

Additionally, emergency phones should be installed at key outdoor locations and be readily accessible and visible to contact campus security.



-  Campus Core
-  Pedestrian Mall with  
Emergency Vehicle  
Access
-  Parking Garage
-  Roundabout
-  Major Vehicular  
Circulation
-  Campus Service  
Vehicular Circulation



Map 2. Circulation

Scale: N.T.S. 

# OUTDOOR FURNISHINGS

## UNIFYING FURNITURE

A cohesive campus identity is reinforced through the thoughtful selection and consistent use of site furnishings. This section introduces a selective, unified family of site furniture that serves both functional and aesthetic purposes. These elements act as the connective tissue, tying diverse areas together and enhancing wayfinding, safety, comfort, and the overall student experience.

Standardizing furnishings such as benches, waste and recycling receptacles, bicycle racks, light poles, bollards, and charging stations is integral to the visual continuity and durability of campus malls, quads, plazas, and courtyards. While certain zones may incorporate specialty furnishings that reflect their unique character, the unifying furniture palette provides a dependable and recognizable baseline that supports ease of maintenance, cost efficiency, and a strong sense of place.

All outdoor furniture should meet the needs of diverse users, withstand various weather conditions, and undergo periodic assessments to ensure it is sturdy, safe, and not vandalized. Outdoor furniture must be stable and secure to prevent accidents. Some existing furnishings in good shape can be relocated to new places as new furnishings are installed.

Unifying furniture includes:

- 1. Benches**  
Simple yet elegant and durable benches should be placed along walkways, at building entries, in plazas, and under shade trees. A uniform material, color, and finish reinforce campus identity while offering weather-resistant comfort.
- 2. Waste and Recycling Receptacles**  
These should be placed at high-traffic nodes, near dining areas, academic buildings, and along trails, with clear signage and ease of maintenance.
- 3. Bicycle Racks**  
Racks should be functional and secure, with a consistent style placed at residence halls, academic zones, and recreation areas. Their location should support active transportation and avoid conflicts with pedestrian circulation.
- 4. Light Poles**  
Pedestrian-scaled lighting is essential for safety, wayfinding, and ambiance. A standardized fixture type, with warm lighting and consistent pole height and spacing, should be used throughout the core campus, with the flexibility to scale up in athletic or vehicular zones as needed.

## 5. Bollards

Used to define pedestrian zones and restrict vehicular access. Removable mounting bollards should be installed at all areas with fire lane access and coordinated with SFA's grounds manager.

## 6. Charging Stations

Discreet but accessible outdoor charging stations should be strategically placed near seating areas.



## STANDARD UNIFYING FURNITURE



**Campus Standard Bench (mounted)**

Texas Correctional Industries

4 ft: 650-06-35100-4, 6 ft: 650-06-35110-3,

8ft: 650-06-35120-2

Color: SFA Purple powder coat



**Campus Standard Outdoor Receptacle**

Texas Correctional Industries

CO-23-6073

Color: Black



**Campus Standard Bicycle Rack**

Manufacturer to be provided by campus

Color: Gray



**Campus Standard Light Pole** (Color Index to be a min. of 80 CRI)

Manufacturer to be provided by campus

Color: Black



**Campus Standard Bollard (Removable Where Necessary)**

Reliance Foundry, R-7591 (removable mounting)

Color: Black



**Campus Standard Wiremold Charging Station**

Legrand

Color: Silver, Custom

# LANDSCAPE TYPOLOGIES

To create a more intentional, memorable, and functional campus experience, this document organizes the campus into a hierarchy of landscape types: open space, quads, malls, plazas, and courtyards. This framework allows each area to develop a unique character and programmatic purpose, supporting activities that range from large campus gatherings to quiet moments of reflection. Additionally, shared design element, such as cohesive furniture, materials, planting palettes, and lighting, ensure continuity across these spaces, making the campus feel cohesive, navigable, and distinctly representative of SFA.

## OPEN SPACE

Open Spaces serve as the campus's "living rooms." These areas are designed to accommodate large gatherings, such as new student orientation events, outdoor performances, or graduation ceremonies, while also functioning as informal play areas and flexible fields for daily gathering and use. Their character ensures they are adaptable, and they anchor the broader campus with a sense of nature, openness, and community.

## QUAD

Typically framed by buildings, quads are the connective tissue between academic buildings and offer opportunities for casual gatherings, student events, and the expression of academic identity. These spaces are ideal

for art installations, small performances, food truck opportunities, or simply as outdoor gathering nooks for students to pause between classes. Because they are embedded within the academic core, quads help define the university's character, support daily pedestrian traffic, and aid in student collaboration.

## MALL

Malls function as the primary arteries of the campus. These tree-lined promenades prioritize safety, walkability, and ease of navigation. They support accessibility and promote a calm, shaded mobility experience while connecting key academic, residential, and social destinations. Malls help reinforce wayfinding, safety, and accessibility while encouraging a culture of multi-modal transportation and informal encounters.

## PLAZA

Plazas are lively outdoor rooms designed for informal gathering, relaxing, and socializing. Often located near student hubs like libraries, dining halls, or student unions, these spaces offer seating, shade, and opportunities for people-watching. They are ideal for everything from quick conversations to college clubs and organizations tabling, creating a strong sense of place and belonging.

## COURTYARD

Courtyards are smaller, more enclosed spaces that support focused activities such as studying, small group discussions, residence hall events, casual dining, or faculty-student meetings. Tucked within or between buildings, they provide calm environments that foster connection, reflection, and productivity. These spaces are vital to supporting academic success beyond the classroom.

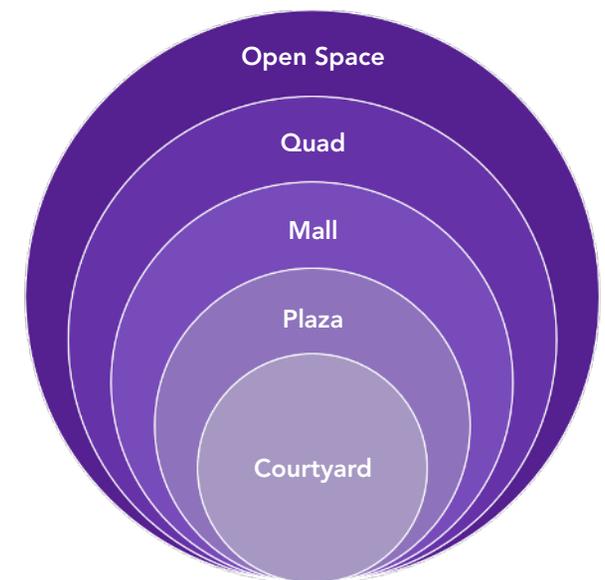
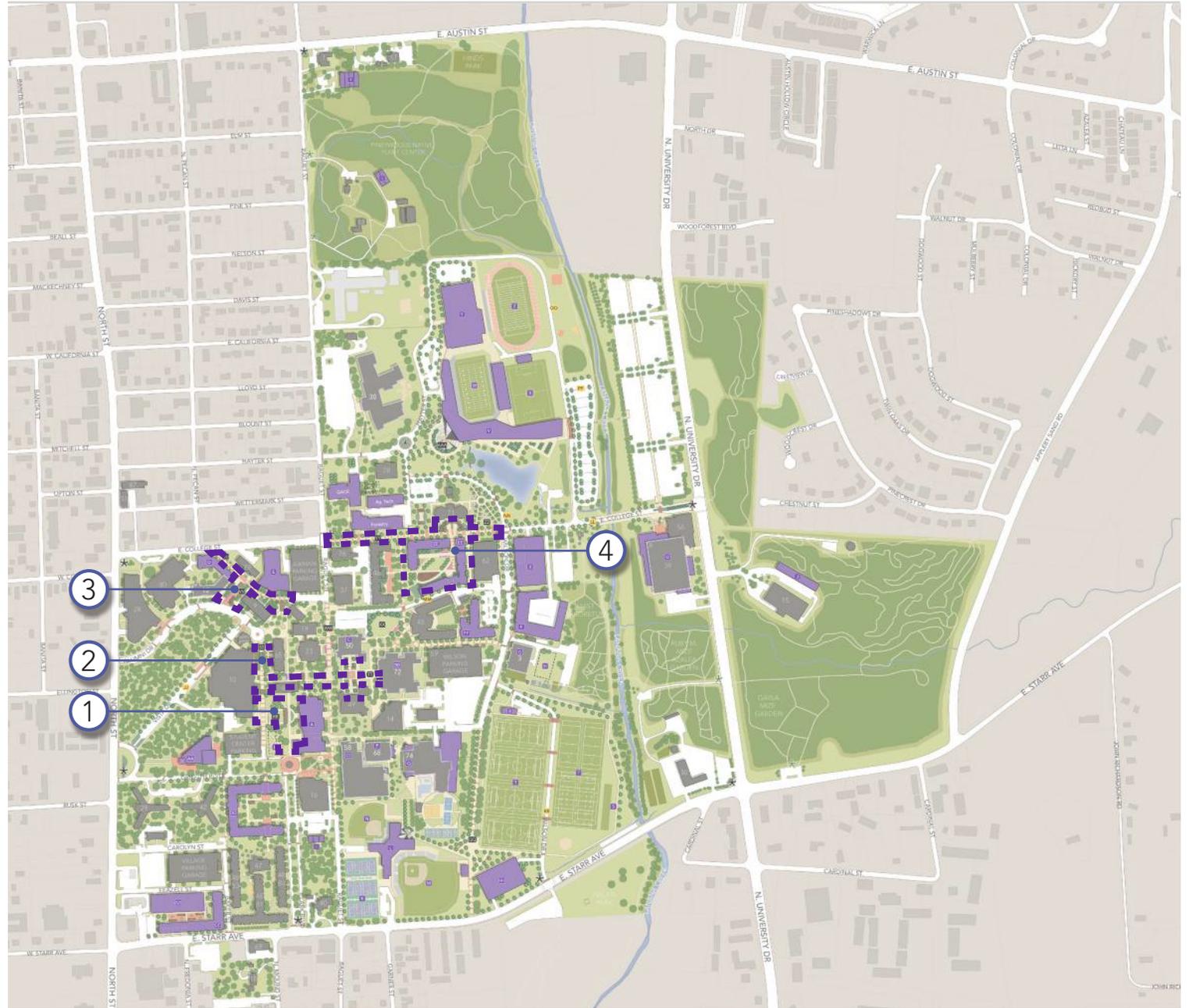


Diagram of landscape typology scales

- ① Central Quad
- ② Central Mall Area
- ③ Austin Plaza and Aikman Mall
- ④ Student Housing Courtyard and College Mall



Map 3. Focus Landscape Typologies

Scale: N.T.S. 

## FOCUS AREAS

### ① CENTRAL QUAD

The Central Quad serves as the heart of campus life and an iconic green space framed by the historic core of SFA. Its central location makes it both a symbolic and functional anchor, balancing the preservation of tradition with the needs of a modern, student-centered campus space. Defined by generous open lawns, the quad provides flexible areas for everyday student activity while also accommodating larger gatherings, including student-led events, formal ceremonies, and SFA-programmed activities.

Diagonal pedestrian connectors weave through the Central Quad, ensuring direct, intuitive movement between the Student

Center Parking Garage on the west and the academic core to the east. These pathways not only strengthen connectivity but also activate the space with daily foot traffic.

The use and color of fields of pavers or paver banding at the Central Quad should be agreed upon with SFA. Accent pavers may be used at gathering nodes and pavilions to highlight areas of activity and reinforce the quad's visual identity. Beginning from Student Center Parking Garage, the Student Center Mall runs north-south as a pedestrian mall with emergency vehicle access walkway featuring paver banding to break up its linear character, while maintaining its required functionality.

The quad incorporates both unifying campus furniture for consistency and specialty furniture, including benches, café-style chairs, and tables, that encourages group interaction, study, and relaxation under shade.

At the center of the quad, an architectural pavilion creates a focal point for gathering, collaboration, and informal performances. To ensure safety and support flexibility of outdoor events, outdoor classrooms, or performances, pedestrian light poles, power receptacles, and pedestals should be provided throughout the quad.

A unique design feature is the catenary lighting strung above the Student Center Mall and tying into the quad. During the day, the lights create a sculptural visual element, while at night they transform the quad into a vibrant, welcoming venue for evening programs, events, or casual socializing.

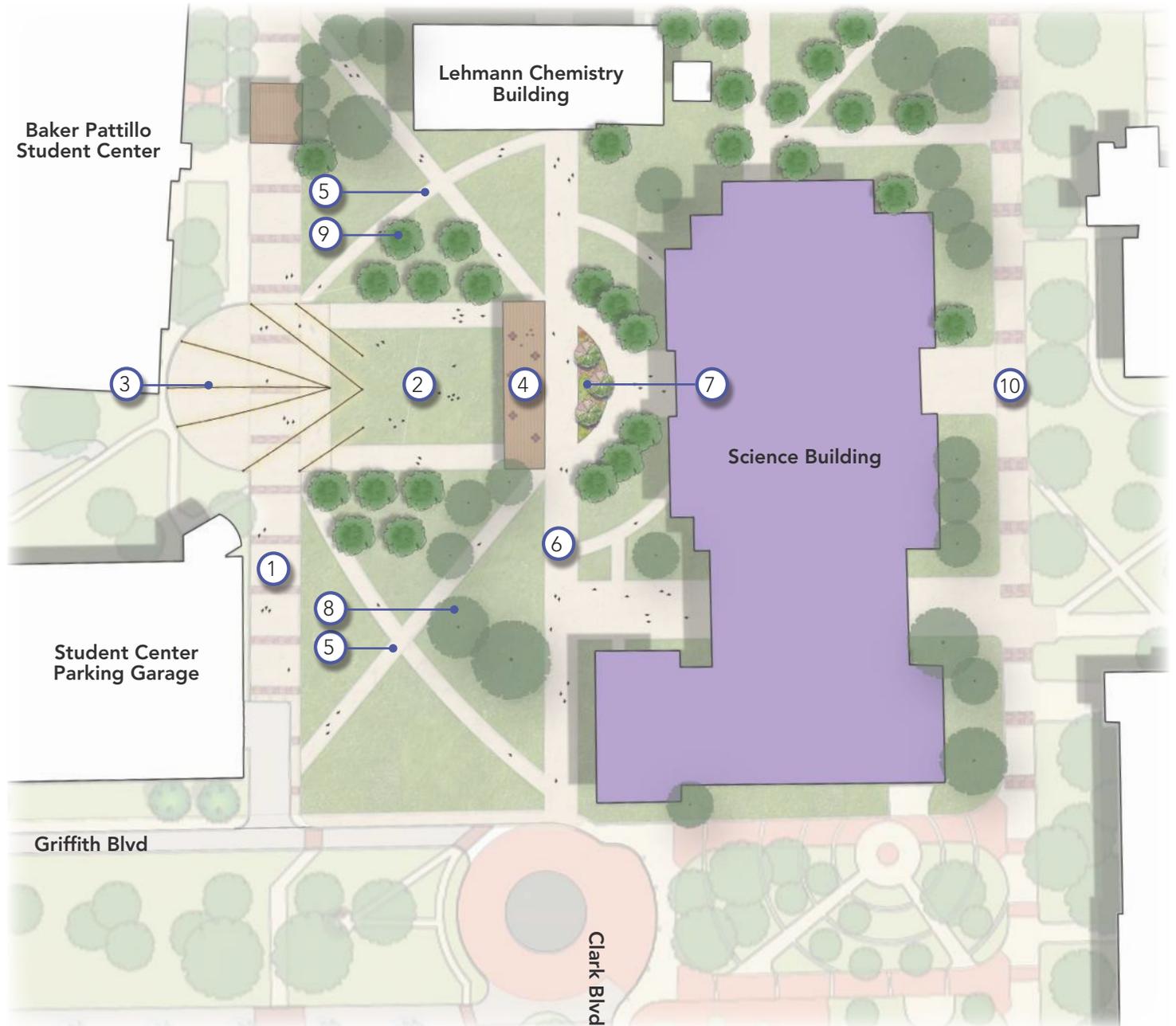
Together, these features establish the Central Quad as a versatile campus destination that supports daily student use, enhancing safety and visibility, and offering a flexible setting for cultural, academic, and community events.



*Example of a quad with a central open lawn (with opportunities for art), a pedestrian mall, and metal shade structures with outdoor furniture*

- ① Student Center Mall (pedestrian mall with emergency vehicle access)
- ② Open lawn
- ③ Event Plaza
- ④ Central Quad Pavilion with furniture
- ⑤ Pedestrian connectors, typ.
- ⑥ Pedestrian walkway connecting Lehmann Chemistry Building and Clark Boulevard
- ⑦ Science Building entry sign
- ⑧ Existing tree, typ.
- ⑨ Proposed tree, typ.
- Raguet Mall (pedestrian mall with emergency vehicle access)
- ⑩

*Note: Electric power should be integrated and distributed throughout quads to ensure pedestrian safety and support outdoor activities.*



**Map 4.** Landscape Typology - Central Quad

Scale: N.T.S.

## ② CENTRAL MALL AREA

The Central Mall Area is a defining pedestrian spine within the historic core of campus, linking significant destinations while celebrating both tradition and contemporary campus life. Anchored by the iconic Stephen F. Austin statue and fountain on the east and extending westward toward the Baker Pattillo Student Center, the Central Mall Area comprises a series of distinct spaces that together create a dynamic, memorable experience.

At the eastern edge, the statue and fountain remain a centerpiece, framed by two adjoining building courtyards that serve as high-capacity student gathering areas, enhanced by canopy trees, four small shade structures, and outdoor furniture that encourages student engagement. To ensure safety and support

outdoor gathering, pedestrian light poles, and power receptacles at shade structures should be provided throughout the mall.

Moving west, the Raguet Mall introduces a vertical, more linear character, marked by paver banding that enhances legibility and visual rhythm. Along this corridor, seating nooks are nestled under the canopy of existing trees, offering shaded places to pause, socialize, or study. Catenary lighting and unifying campus furniture add both consistency and evening vibrancy to the corridor.

At the heart of the mall, a central rotunda serves as a symbolic focal point. Echoing the geometry of the existing roundabout (located south of the mall along Clark Boulevard), this node is envisioned as a celebratory space with opportunities to integrate art sculptures or other commemorative elements. Additional metal shade structures with power receptacles

and furniture in this portion of the mall support outdoor gathering, informal performances, and study stations, making it an active hub throughout the day.

Rain gardens are integrated into the landscape areas throughout the mall to ensure storm runoff is captured and properly drained.

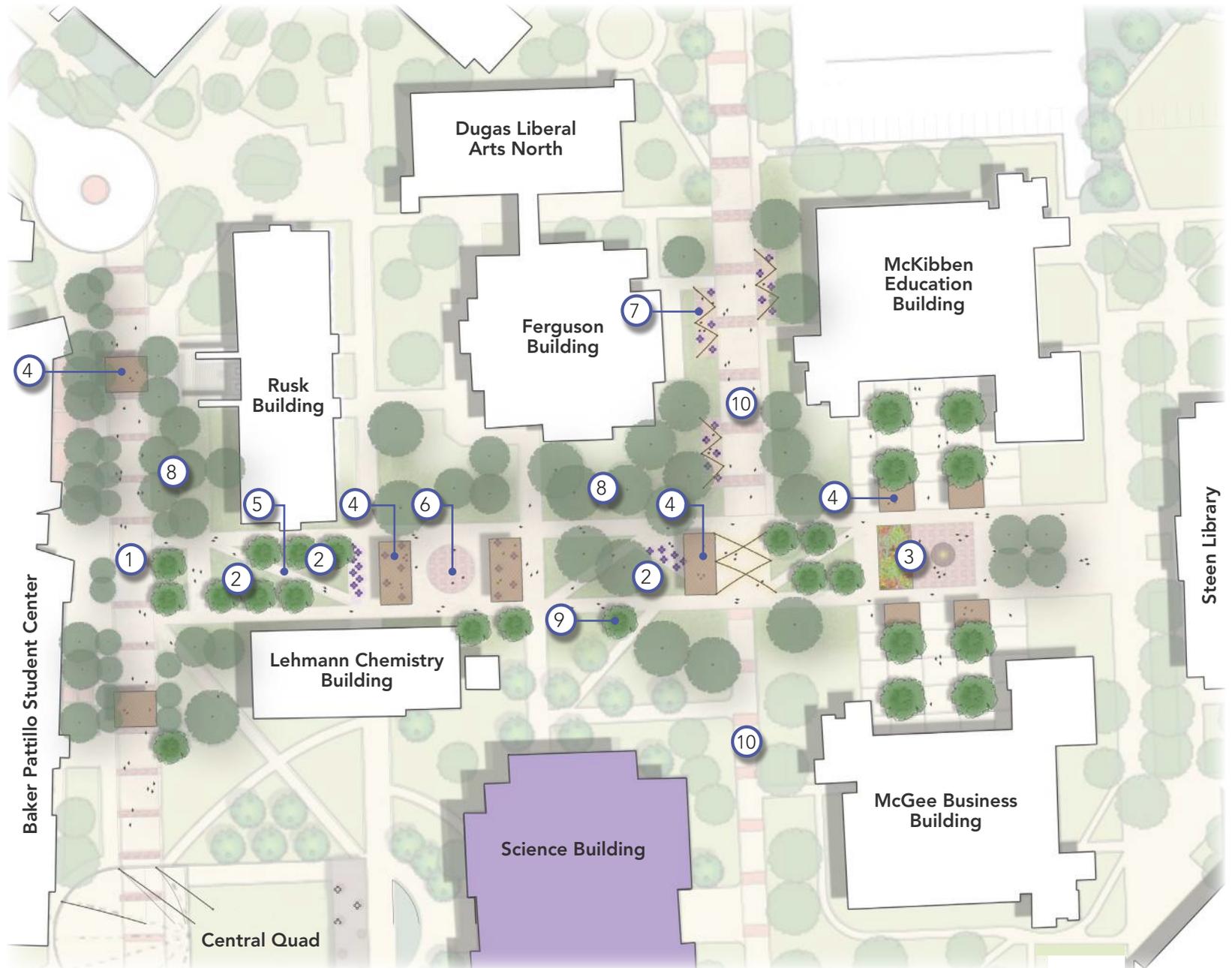
Moving further west, the Central Mall Area intersects with the Student Center Mall, a pedestrian mall with emergency vehicle access walkway moving north-south along the Baker Pattillo Student Center. Here, the design integrates shade trees, paver bandings, and metal shade structures to accommodate outdoor dining and daily social activity, reinforcing the Central Mall Area as both a thoroughfare and a destination.



*Example of a central mall area with shade trees, pavers, benches, light fixtures, and historic markers*

- ① Student Center Mall (pedestrian mall with emergency vehicle access)
- ② Rain garden areas, typ.
- ③ Stephen F. Austin statue and fountain
- ④ Metal shade structures with outdoor furniture, typ.
- ⑤ Pedestrian connectors, typ.
- ⑥ Central Rotunda / Sculpture Plaza
- ⑦ Seating nooks with catenary lights and outdoor furniture
- ⑧ Existing tree, typ.
- ⑨ Proposed tree, typ.
- ⑩ Raguet Mall (pedestrian mall with emergency vehicle access)

*Note: Electric power should be integrated and distributed throughout malls to ensure pedestrian safety and support outdoor activities.*



**Map 5.** Landscape Typology - Central Mall

Scale: N.T.S.

### 3 AUSTIN PLAZA AND AIKMAN MALL

The Austin Plaza serves as a welcoming gateway for visitors and social hub for students at the northern edge of the historic core of campus, positioned adjacent to the Austin Building, one of the oldest and most significant academic buildings on campus, and just south of Wisely Hall, the first men's dormitory at SFA.

Its location makes it a pivotal space for prospective students and visitors arriving to campus, as well as a daily gathering place for staff or students who reside in Wisely Hall, Griffith Fine Arts Building, Wright Music Building, or Boynton Building. Designed as both an arrival point and an outdoor living room, the Austin Plaza reinforces the campus identity while encouraging interaction and engagement.

The Austin Plaza consists of three metal shade structures that accommodate different uses such as outdoor gathering, studying, or as a small event space. The plaza blends concrete paving with fields of accent pavers that define the different seating zones beneath each shade structure. A mix of surface mounted and movable furniture allows for flexibility in every day uses while also providing comfort. Catenary lighting at the plaza adds warmth and visibility during evening hours.

To ensure safety and support outdoor gathering, pedestrian light poles, and power receptacles at shade structures should be provided throughout the plaza and mall.

Existing mature trees are preserved to maintain the character of the space, complemented by new canopy trees to enhance shade and the aesthetics of the plaza. Between the Austin Plaza and Wisely Hall, the

Aikman Mall intersects the space, providing a strong east-west connection to the campus core. This mall provides emergency vehicle access while featuring paver bandings, campus standard pedestrian light fixtures and shade trees flanking the mall. A field of pavers at the intersection of Wisely Hall and Austin Plaza emphasizes the main zone of high pedestrian traffic.

This integration of pedestrian flow with outdoor gathering space reinforces the plaza's role as a connective threshold, a place where the academic and residential life converge.



*Example of a plaza with a metal shade structure, outdoor furniture, and festoon lighting as a space for gathering and socializing*

- ① Aikman Mall (pedestrian mall with emergency vehicle access)
- ② Pedestrian light fixtures at paver bands
- ③ Metal shade structures with outdoor furniture, typ.
- ④ Outdoor furniture, typ.
- ⑤ Catenary lights, typ.
- ⑥ Field of Pavers
- ⑦ Landscape area, typ.
- ⑧ Existing tree, typ.
- ⑨ Proposed tree, typ.

*Note: Electric power should be integrated and distributed throughout plazas and malls to ensure pedestrian safety and support outdoor activities.*



**Map 6.** Landscape Typology - Austin Plaza and Aikman Mall

Scale: N.T.S.

## 4 STUDENT HOUSING COURTYARD AND COLLEGE MALL

Student Housing courtyards serve as the central social and recreational heart of the residential district, positioned between the iconic Steen Hall “twin towers” to the north, the Lumberjack Lodge to the west, the Lumberjack Landing to the south, and the Pineywoods Dining Hall to the east.

The courtyard is designed as a flexible, multi-use outdoor space that fosters both community interaction and individual retreat. A generous, central open lawn accommodates informal recreation and lawn games, while a network of seating nooks with movable furniture around the lawn provides opportunities for studying, socializing, and small gatherings or spontaneous activities.

Overhead catenary lighting adds vibrancy and safety during the evening hours, creating a warm and welcoming ambiance. A metal shade structure on the south side anchors the courtyard, offering a focal point for outdoor grilling, small performances, and residence hall events. To ensure safety and support outdoor gathering, pedestrian light poles, and power receptacles at shade structures should be provided throughout the courtyard.

Shade and ornamental trees along with layered vegetation soften building edges, provide screening, and enhance the overall aesthetics of the courtyard.

To the north of the Student Housing, the College Mall connects the new residence halls with Steen Hall, the football stadium, and academic buildings, serving as a key pedestrian spine within this residential district.

The mall features paver banding, seating nooks shaded by trees, and is illuminated by standard campus light fixtures that reinforce connectivity and continuity with the broader campus landscape.

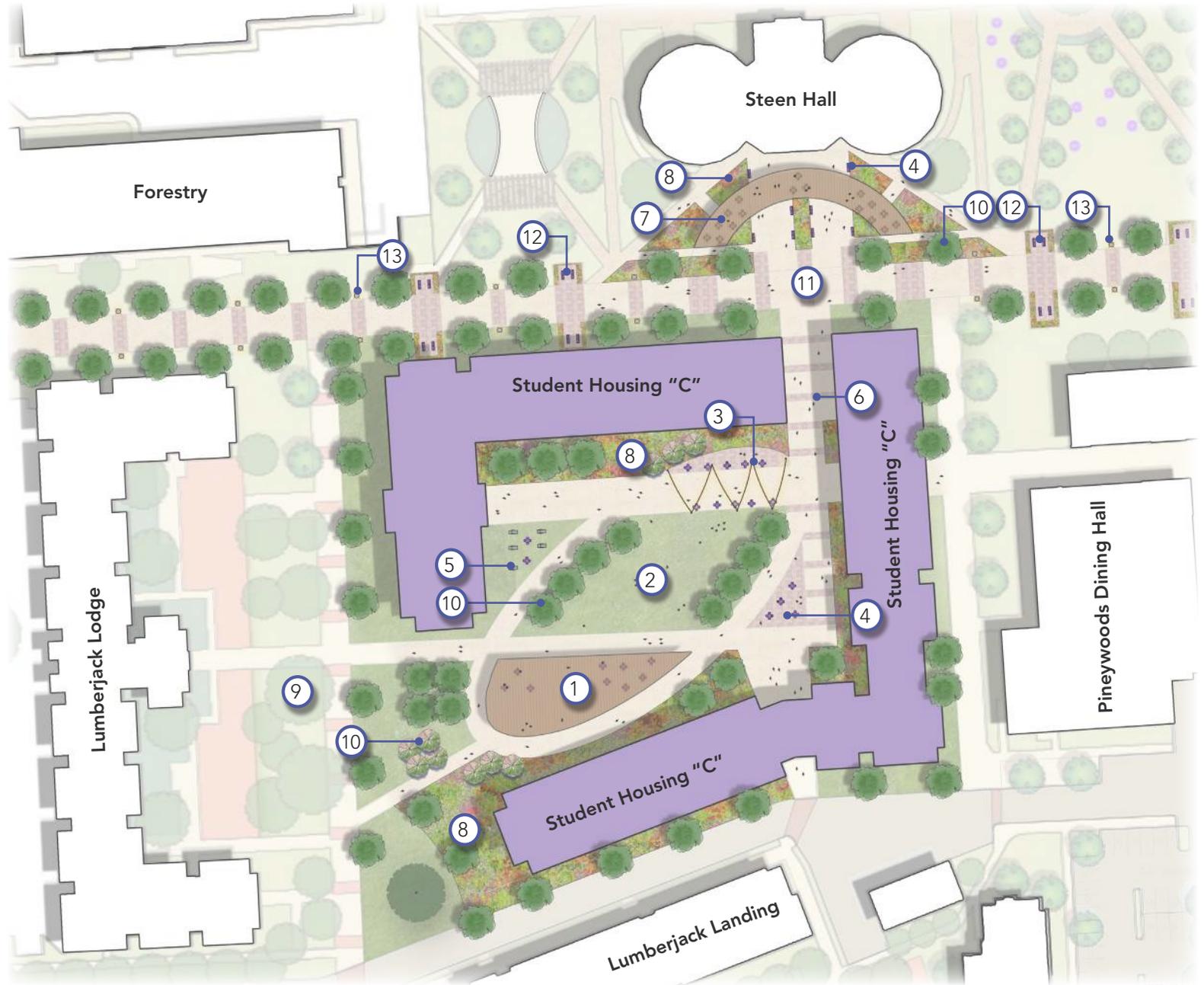
Between the College Mall and Steen Hall, an architectural arbor marks and modernizes the entrance to Steen Hall, providing additional outdoor spaces for gathering, studying, and dining. This architectural feature ties the historic character of Steen Hall with the contemporary design language of the new housing precinct, creating a cohesive and active residential environment.



*Example of residence hall courtyard with specialty furniture*

- ① Metal shade structures with outdoor furniture, typ.
- ② Central open lawn
- ③ Seating nook with pavers and catenary lights
- ④ Outdoor furniture, typ.
- ⑤ Hammock grove
- ⑥ Paver banding, typ.
- ⑦ Architectural arbor with outdoor furniture
- ⑧ Landscape area, typ.
- ⑨ Existing tree, typ.
- ⑩ Proposed tree, typ.
- ⑪ College Mall (pedestrian mall with emergency vehicle access)
- ⑫ Seating nook along Mall, typ.
- ⑬ Pedestrian light fixtures at paver bands

Note: Electric power should be integrated and distributed throughout courtyards and malls to ensure pedestrian safety and support outdoor activities.



Map 7. Landscape Typology - Student Housing Courtyard and College Mall

Scale: N.T.S.

# SPECIALTY FURNITURE PER LANDSCAPE TYPOLOGY

While a consistent family of standard unifying furniture forms the backbone of the campus identity, each landscape typology calls for specialty furnishings that respond to its unique character, support distinct uses and scale, and enhance the campus identity within its context. These furnishings complement the unifying palette while allowing design and activity flexibility that aligns with the programmatic and aesthetic goals of each landscape typology. All specialty furniture must be reviewed and approved by SFA prior to procurement.

## OPEN SPACE

Specialty furniture in these areas should be durable, weather-resistant, and flexible, with minimal fixed elements to allow reconfiguration based on seasonal or programmatic needs. Long benches, perimeter seating walls, and integrated seating along lawn edges are appropriate. Where possible, furniture should support large-scale events.



## QUADS

Specialty furniture in quads should be fixed in place to maintain organization, durability, and alignment with circulation. Specialty pieces may include benches with backrests and armrests, arranged in seating nooks or along main walkways. Metal shade structures at different scales are recommended to promote social activities during warmer months and enhance the space's character. Furniture design should reflect the formal, academic tone of these spaces.



**Decorative Concrete Bench with Skate Stops at Open Spaces**

*Wausau Tile*

*Materials: Decorative concrete*

**Vroom Bench or Modules at Quads**

*Vestre*

*Color: Purple (RAL)*

## MALL

As primary pedestrian corridors, malls require specialty furniture that is both permanent and purposeful. Seating should be anchored and located in clearly defined zones, such as small plazas or nooks along the path, to avoid obstructing pedestrian, maintenance, or emergency vehicle circulation. Specialty furniture can include seat walls, fixed benches, fixed carousel tables and chairs, custom design pieces such as plinths, and light elements such as light bollards and festoon lights. Where appropriate, covered seating nooks with landscape buffer or shade elements should provide opportunities for respite and moments of pause without disrupting the linear flow of movement.



**Carousel Table and Chairs at Malls or Plazas**

*Landscape Forms*

*Metal, Casual or Dining Height, Umbrella hole  
(optional depending on location), surface mounted*

## PLAZAS

Plazas are social, high-traffic spaces meant for informal gathering and interaction. Specialty furniture in these spaces should be loose, movable, and comfortable to accommodate group dynamics and daily use. Lightweight café-style tables and chairs, lounge seating, and, where appropriate, soft seating elements like swings and hammock stands promote a casual, student-friendly atmosphere with a social emphasis. Central shade structures are encouraged to support gatherings, events, or day-to-day activities.



**Boat Plinths at Malls**

*Custom Design*

*Materials: Concrete and wood*



**Adirondack Chairs at Plaza**

*Loll Furniture*

*Color: Sage, Fog, Navy Blue or approved equal*



**Air Seat and Table with Vroom Module at Plaza**

*Vestre*

*Color: Pearl Violet or approved equal by SFA*

## COURTYARD

Courtyards are smaller-scale, often semi-enclosed spaces that support studying, dining, on-campus residence hall activities, and small meetings. Here, specialty furniture should be flexible, informal, and varied, offering a mix of solo seating, small group tables, and movable lounge pieces. Comfortable furniture such as Adirondack chairs, bistro tables, swings, and outdoor sofas may be used where security and durability allow. These spaces also offer opportunities for integrated planter seating, vertical shade elements, designated hammock posts, and outdoor power access to support productivity and comfort.

Skateboard and e-scooter parking areas are primarily appropriate around student housing and dining areas.



**Lakeside 48" Swing at Courtyards or Plazas**  
Polywood  
Color: Slate Grey, or Sand



**Adirondack Chairs and Sofas at Courtyards or Plazas**  
Loll Furniture  
Color: Sage, Fog, Navy Blue or approved equal



**Hammock Posts at Courtyards**  
Custom Steel  
HSS Round post, powder coated black or purple  
Height: 54" to 60"



**Harvest Table and Benches at Courtyards**  
Landscape Forms  
Color: Leaf Green, Navy Blue, or approved equal  
Accessories: Bag Hanger. Style: Rectangular



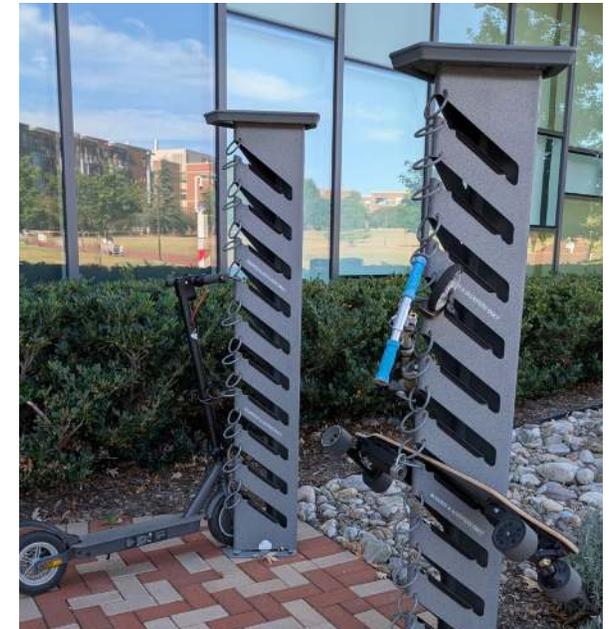
**Harvest Table and Benches at Courtyards**  
Landscape Forms  
Color: Leaf Green, Navy Blue, or approved equal  
Accessories: Bag Hanger. Style: Round



**Adirondack Rockers at Courtyards or Plazas**  
 Loll Furniture  
 Color: Sage, Fog, Navy Blue or approved equal



**Adirondack Chaise at Courtyards or Plazas**  
 Loll Furniture  
 Color: Sage, Fog, Navy Blue or approved equal  
 Style: 405 Chaise



**1050 Bar Height Tables and Stools at Courtyards**  
 Maglin  
 Color: Reseda Green, Pastel Blue, or approve eq.



**Personal E-Scooter Parking & Charging Station at Courtyards (or outside Student Housing)**  
 bikekeep or comparable  
 App-based system with charging socket add-on

**Scooter & Skateboard Rack at Courtyards (or outside Student Housing)**  
 Skatedock by Ground Control Systems  
 Surface mount

## GARDEN & TRAIL ZONE

Within naturalized areas at the Garden and Trail Zones, furnishings should be context-sensitive and low-impact. Benches, picnic tables, and waste receptacles should be made of metal, high-density polyethylene (H.D.P.E.), wood, concrete, or limestone to blend with the surrounding landscape and reduce maintenance needs. Rest areas with seating should be strategically located at scenic overlooks, intersections, under tree canopies to encourage natural shade, reflection, and interaction with nature.

Where natural shade from trees is not available, shade sails may be incorporated to provide comfort and relief from sun exposure and heat.



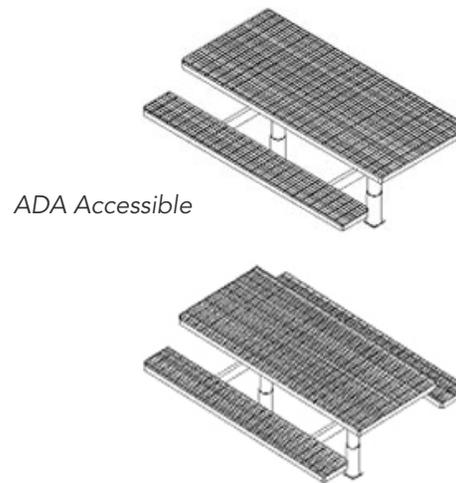
**Butterstick Block at Gardens and Trails**  
Local Quarry  
Material: Limestone



**Shade Sail at Gardens and Trails**  
Kraftsman Play  
Color to be approved by SFA



**Campus Standard Bench (mounted)**  
Texas Correctional Industries  
4 ft: 650-06-35100-4, 6 ft: 650-06-35110-3,  
8ft: 650-06-35120-2  
Color: SFA Purple powder coat



**Picnic Table (mounted)**  
Texas Correctional Industries  
650-36-36100-7 and 650-36-31090-5 (ADA where  
applicable), 8 ft length  
Color: SFA Purple powder coat



**Habitat Wings at Gardens and Trails**  
Vestre  
Materials: Metal and Wood  
Color to be approved by SFA

## LIGHTING AND SAFETY

In addition to the previously-listed unifying furniture standards, a new family of specialty lighting and safety elements is recommended to support modern campus improvements and enhance safety throughout the SFA campus. These elements, consisting of illuminated bollards and blue-light emergency phones, are intended to complement, rather than compete with, the established unifying furniture palette. Their clean, modern design provides an updated aesthetic that aligns with new construction and renovation projects while maintaining visual harmony with the broader campus environment.

Specialty illuminated bollards should be strategically integrated within all landscape typologies, such as open spaces, malls, quads, plazas, and courtyards, where they can enhance visibility, define circulation routes, and improve nighttime comfort for all users. Their placement should emphasize pedestrian pathways, gathering areas, and transition zones, i.e. mall nodes or gateways, ensuring consistent illumination.

Campus blue-light emergency phones remain a critical component of campus safety and should be prioritized in accessible locations across landscape typologies. They are to be placed at key pedestrian intersections, open spaces, and near major building entries to maximize visibility and ease of use. The integration of these specialty furniture devices within the landscape should be coordinated, reviewed, and approved by SFA.



**Inula Light Bollard**  
*Selux*  
*Color: Bronze*



**Campus Blue-Light Emergency Phone**  
*Manufacturer to be provided by campus*  
*Color: White*

# SIGNAGE & WAYFINDING

Visible, harmonious, and well-maintained signage is essential to creating a welcoming and navigable campus environment. Entry monument signs, wayfinding signage, and trail markers all work together to establish a strong sense of identity for SFA, improve first impressions, and support safe and intuitive movement throughout the campus. A cohesive signage system reinforces campus branding, reduces visual clutter, and ensures that visitors, students, and staff can easily locate campus entrances/edges, buildings, destinations, and amenities. Signs must be readable both day and night and designed with materials that withstand weather and time with minimal maintenance.

## EXISTING MONUMENT SIGNS

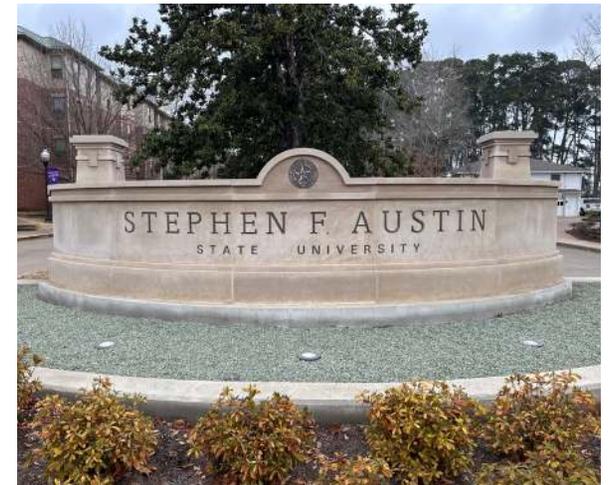
All additional campus entry points must comply with the established design standards of the existing primary monument sign located along North Street and secondary monument sign located along E. Starr Avenue. Primary and secondary entry signs convey the university's identity at key arrival points and must match the existing monuments in style, materials, branding, and landscape integration. They serve as iconic gateways and should be illuminated and placed in clear sight lines for maximum visibility. Consistency between primary and secondary signage ensures a seamless arrival experience across campus thresholds and maintains campus branding and identification.

## GARDEN AND TRAIL ENTRY SIGNS

Entrances into garden areas and trail systems must also be marked by consistent, scaled-down signage that reflects the overall campus signage standards. These signs should be thoughtfully integrated into the landscape, using durable materials and legible graphics. Trail heads and wayfinding markers within the gardens and trails should be strategically placed to support navigation, safety, and educational interpretation, reinforcing both campus identity and a connection to the surrounding ecosystem.

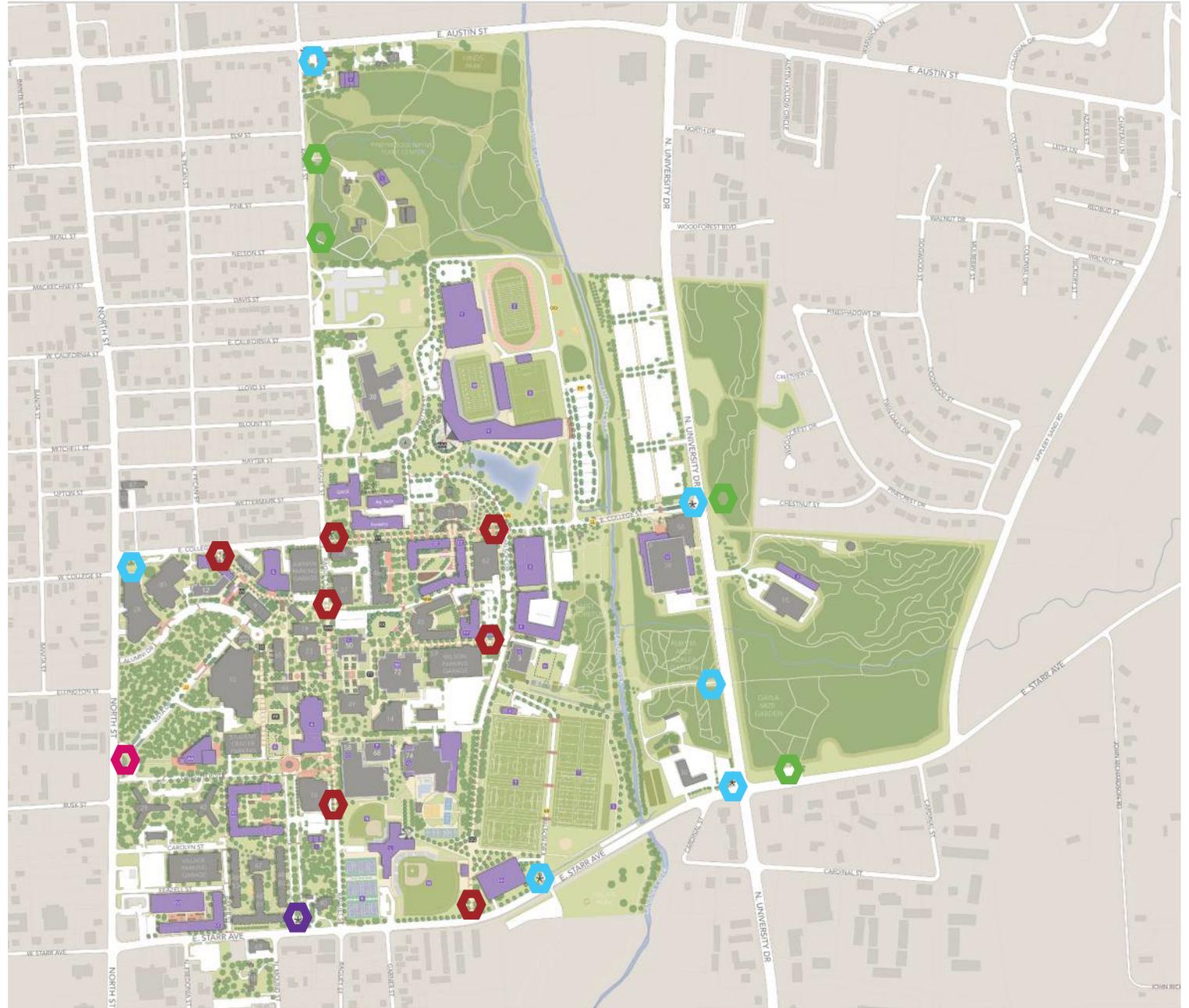


*Existing Primary Monument Sign along North Street*



*Existing Secondary Sign along E. Starr Avenue*

-  Existing Primary Monument Sign (Standard)
-  Existing Secondary Monument Sign (Standard)
-  Secondary Monument Sign (New or Retrofitted)
-  Pedestrian Gateway
-  Garden and Trail Entry Sign (New)



Map 8. Main Campus - Proposed Signage Hierarchy

Scale: N.T.S. 

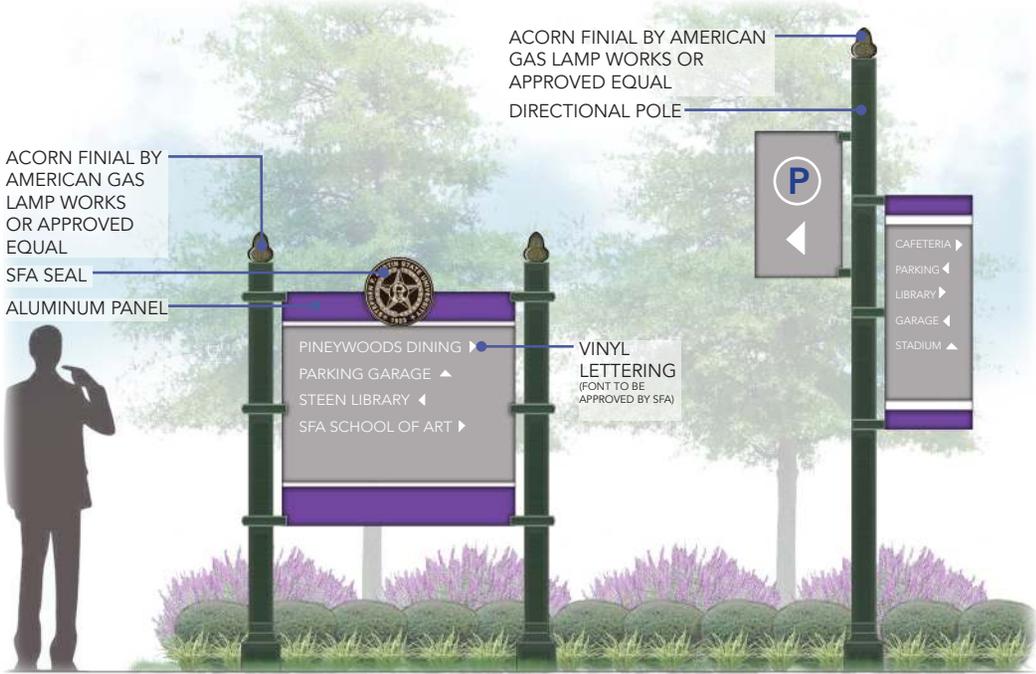
# PEDESTRIAN WAYFINDING SIGNAGE

The pedestrian wayfinding signage is designed to enhance clarity, connectivity, and campus identity. Two different pedestrian wayfinding signs are used simultaneously, upon agreement with SFA, to guide students, visitors, and staff efficiently through the campus.

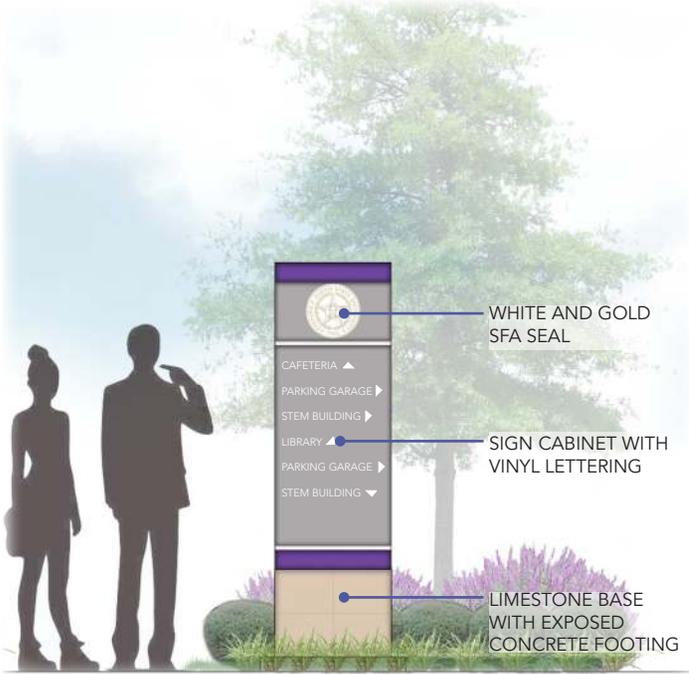
The first and second type is a metal panel and directional pole system, strategically located adjacent to walkways, adjacent to roads such as intersections, and within gardens and trails. Their slender, durable design provides clear directional information, helping people orient themselves and navigate key campus destinations, such as academic buildings, residence halls, and offices. Its minimal profile and consistent branding ensure legibility without detracting from the surrounding landscape.

The third type is a metal cabinet plinth with a limestone base, serving as a more substantial and architectural marker. These are best suited for placement near building, within prominent landscape typologies such as malls, quads, or plazas, and at key campus intersections.

Together, all three signage types reinforce a unified wayfinding language that is elegant, durable, and responsive to the scale of each campus zone.



Type 1 metal panel and Type 2 directional pole decorated with seal and acorn finials



Type 3 metal cabinet plinth with limestone base

## PEDESTRIAN GATEWAY

The pedestrian gateways align with the architectural style and materials of the existing entry monument sign family and, like it, function to create a sense of arrival at the pedestrian scale. These gateways establish visual continuity and strengthen campus edges and experiences. Located at key pedestrian entry points, such as a mall terminus, pedestrian nodes, or courtyard or garden entrances, these formal markers signal entry into the university grounds or landscape typology.

Where space is limited, the first type of pedestrian gateway consists of a set of limestone columns adjacent to the pedestrian walkway. Both columns should match the architectural detail, style, material, and illumination as the existing columns located along Griffith Boulevard (see image below). These type of pedestrian gateway can be embellish with shrubs and groundcovers at ground level adjacent to the sidewalk.



Type 1 limestone columns to match existing

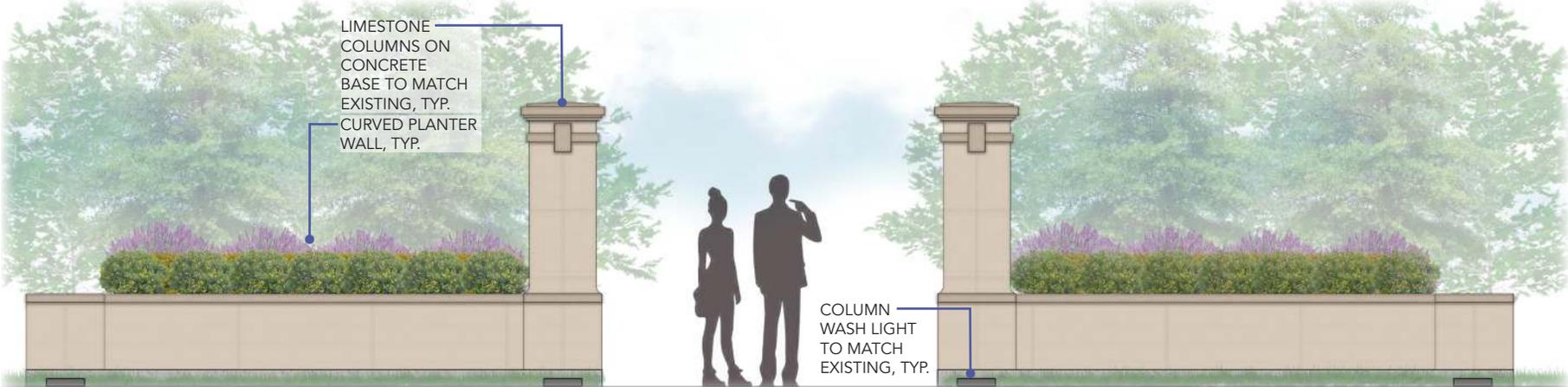


Existing limestone wall and columns along Vista Drive

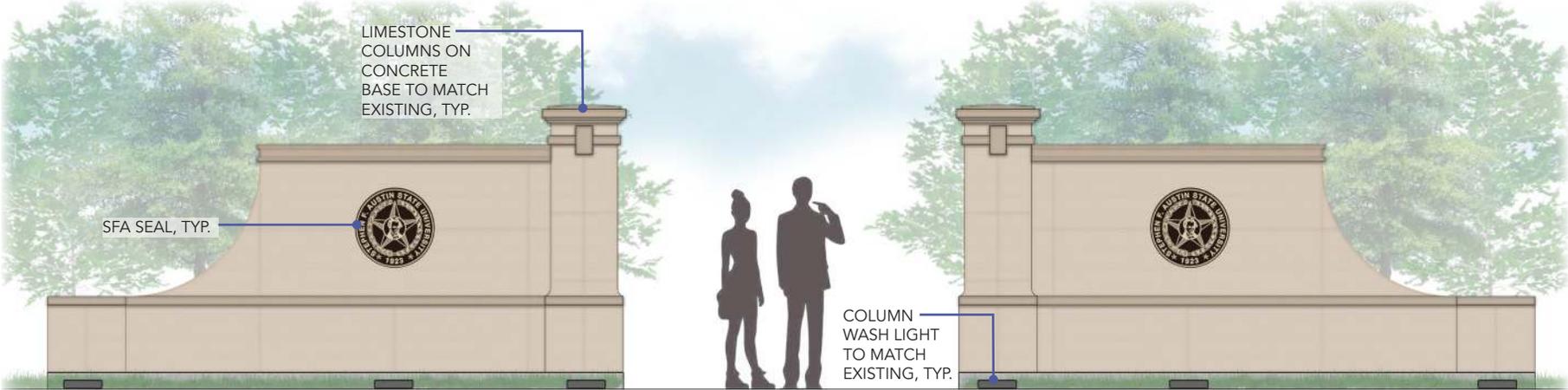
# PEDESTRIAN GATEWAY (CONT.)

The second and third type of pedestrian gateway incorporates the same set of limestone columns along Griffith Boulevard but extends out on each side to create two curved wing walls. Type 2 wing walls incorporates planters and offers the opportunity to add annual flowers or shrubs to bring a pop of color and beauty to the campus edges or entrances.

Type 3 wing walls replaces the planters with taller curved walls and the SFA seal. The combination of stone, metal accents, illuminated features, and the opportunity to integrate a planter or SFA seal created a welcoming and memorable experience for users.



Type 2 limestone columns with curved planters



Type 3 limestone columns with curved walls

## INDIVIDUAL BUILDING SIGNAGE

Individual building signage should maintain a consistent, durable, and high-quality appearance that aligns with the overall campus identity. Building signage design shall be approved by SFA prior to manufacturing and installing. Each sign must be mounted on a subsurface post, providing a uniform installation method per SFA's recommendation that enhances durability and created a cohesive look across campus. This standardized approach ensures that building identification remain consistent, elegant, and easily recognizable for everyone.

Below are examples of building signs designed and approved by SFA.



### **Austin Building Signage**

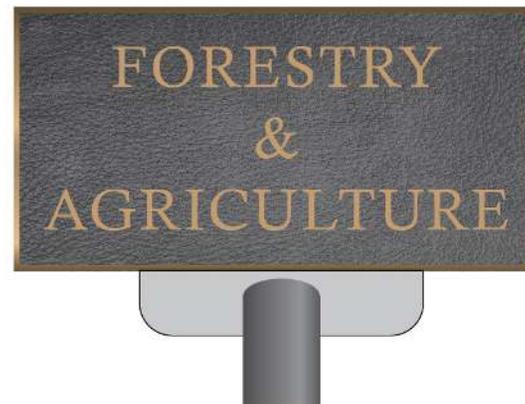
24w x 12h

Solid Cast Bronze

Single Line

Black Leatherette

Integral post cap mounting standard with post



### **Forestry & Agriculture Building Signage**

24w x 12h

Solid Cast Bronze

Single Line

Black Leatherette

Integral post cap mounting standard with post

# LANDSCAPE SCULPTURES

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR ART

Outdoor art installations on campus play an important role in expressing the university's identity, commemorating individuals, and enhancing the character of open spaces, quads, and malls. When introducing new art pieces, it is essential to consider proper placement, visibility, architectural scale, and clearance requirements, as well as safety and ADA compliance. The surrounding landscape, including trees, plantings, and site furnishings, should also be evaluated to ensure that the artwork complements, rather than conflicts with, its setting.

To support long-term stewardship, all outdoor art installations must include provisions for ongoing maintenance, typically through an established endowment. Additionally, any outdoor art piece exceeding a cost threshold dictated by SFA must be designed and installed to allow for future removal or relocation without significant disruption to the site or surrounding landscape



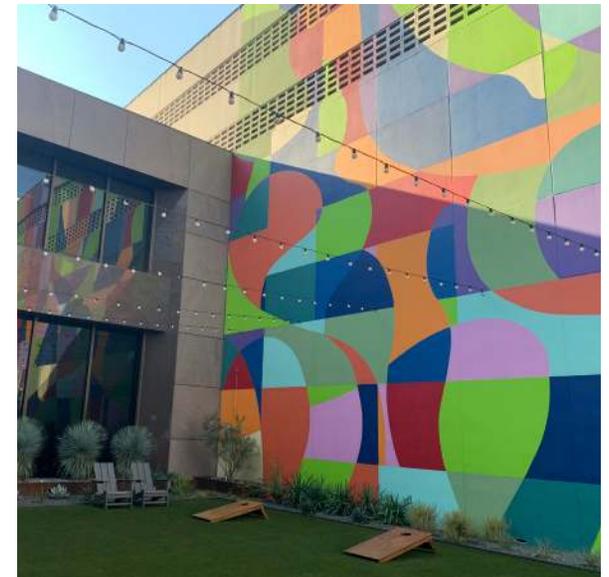
*Micky Elliott College of Fine Arts Art Installation*



*Example of an art installation along a mall*



*STEM Building Art Installation*



*Example of a mural within a building courtyard*

-  Area for Outdoor Art Installation
-  Area for Murals



Map 9. Main Campus - Opportunities for Outdoor Art

Scale: N.T.S. 

# APPENDIX

# PRIMARY PLANT PALETTE

## SHADE TREES



*Longleaf & Short Leaf Pine*

*Pinus palustris*



*Loblolly Pine*

*Pinus taeda*



*Live Oak*

*Quercus virginiana*



*Southern Red Oak*

*Quercus falcata*



*Chinquapin Oak*

*Quercus muehlenbergii*



*Water Oak*

*Quercus nigra*



*American Elm*

*Ulmus americana*



*Cedar Elm*

*Ulmus crassifolia*

NOTE: Primary shade tree palette is readily available and supports the character of the campus as a primary element.

# SECONDARY PLANT PALETTE

## SHADE TREES



*Nuttall Oak*  
*Quercus texana*



*Shumard Oak*  
*Quercus shumardii*



*Mexican White/Monterey Oak*  
*Quercus polyphorma*



*Pond Cypress*  
*Taxodium ascendens*



*Southern Magnolia*  
*Magnolia grandiflora*

NOTE: Secondary shade tree palette is smaller and to be used to diversify the primary palette and for specific areas or uses.

# TERTIARY PLANT PALETTE

## SHADE TREES



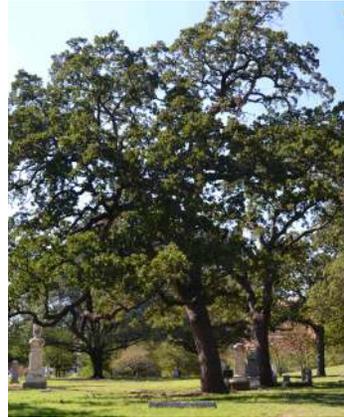
*Black Tupelo/Blackgum*

*Nyssa sylvatica*



*White Oak*

*Quercus alba*



*Post Oak*

*Quercus stellata*



*Bur Oak*

*Quercus macrocarpa*



*Overcup Oak*

*Quercus lyrata*



*Swamp Chestnut Oak*

*Quercus michauxii*



*Cherrybark Oak*

*Quercus pagoda*



*Pecan Tree*

*Carya illinoensis*



*American Sycamore*

*Platanus occidentalis*



*Mexican Sycamore*

*Platanus mexicana*

NOTE: Tertiary shade tree palette increases the diversity, interest, or replaces trees that are challenging to procure.

# PRIMARY PLANT PALETTE

## ORNAMENTAL TREES



*Eastern Redbud*  
*Cercis canadensis*



*Texas Mountain Laurel*  
*Dermatophyllum secundiflorum*



*Vitex*  
*Vitex agnus-castus*



*Little Gem Dwarf Southern Magnolia*  
*Magnolia grandiflora 'Little Gem'*

NOTE: Primary ornamental tree palette is readily available, prioritized, and used throughout campus.

# SECONDARY PLANT PALETTE

## ORNAMENTAL TREES



*Dogwood*  
*Cornus florida*



*Japanese Maple*  
*Acer palmatum*  
(multiple cultivars available)



*'Little Gem' Magnolia*  
*Ilex x 'Nellie R. Stevens'*



*Rusty Blackhaw Viburnum*  
*Viburnum rufidulum*

NOTE: Secondary ornamental tree palette to be used to diversify the primary palette and for specific areas or uses.

# TERTIARY PLANT PALETTE

## ORNAMENTAL TREES



*Japanese Black Pine*

*Pinus thunbergii*



*Mexican Sugar Maple*

*Acer skutchii*



*Red Maple*

*Acer rubrum*

NOTE: Tertiary ornamental tree palette increases the diversity and interest throughout campus. Can also be used as accent trees.

# PRIMARY PLANT PALETTE

## SHRUBS



Azalea  
Rhododendron spp.  
(multiple species available)



Azalea 'red ruffles'  
Rhododendron 'Red Ruffles'



Azalea 'Pink Ruffles'  
Rhododendron 'Pink Ruffles'



Azalea Encore 'Autumn Royalty'  
Rhododendron 'Conlec'



Azalea Encore 'Autumn Angel'  
Rhododendron 'Robleg'



Azalea 'George Tabor'  
Rhododendron x 'George Tabor'



Red Turk's Cap  
Malva viscus arboreus var.  
drummondii



Pink Turk's Cap  
Malva viscus Drummondii  
'Pam Puryear'

NOTES: Primary shrub palette is readily available and support the character of the campus as a primary element.

# PRIMARY PLANT PALETTE

## SHRUBS



Texas Sage  
*Leucophyllum frutescens*



Texas Sage 'Little Lynn'  
*Leucophyllum langmaniae* 'Little Lynn'



Oak Leaf Hydrangea  
*Hydrangea quercifolia*



Knockout Roses  
*Rosa* 'Knock Out'



Pittosporum  
*Pittosporum* spp.  
(multiple varieties available)



Coral Drift Rose  
*Rosa* 'Meidrifora'  
(multiple cultivars available)



Rose Spirea  
*Spirea douglasii*



Dwarf Yaupon Holly  
*Ilex vomitoria* 'Nana'

# PRIMARY PLANT PALETTE

## SHRUBS



*Dwarf Burford Holly*  
*Ilex cornuta 'Burfordii'*



*Indian Hawthorn*  
*Raphiolepis indica spp.*



*Cherry Laurel*  
*Prunus laurocerasus*



*Spider Lily*  
*Lycoris radiata*



*White Drift Rose*  
*Rosa 'Meizorland'*  
(multiple cultivars available)



*Japanese Spirea*  
*Spiraea japonica*



*American Beautyberry*  
*Callicarpa americana*

# SECONDARY PLANT PALETTE

## SHRUBS



*Illicium*  
*Illicium verum*



*Holly Fern*  
*Cyrtomium falcatum*



*Gardenia*  
*Gardenia* spp.  
(multiple varieties available)



*Japanese Yew*  
*Taxus cuspidata*  
(multiple varieties available)



*Chinese Fringe Flower*  
*Loropetalum chinense* var. *rubrum*



*Variegated Jazz Hands*  
*Loropetalum chinense* 'Irodori'



*Purple Diamond Loropetalum*  
*Loropetalum chinense* 'Shang-hi'



*Wintergreen Boxwood*  
*Buxus sinica* var. *insularis*  
'Wintergreen'

NOTE: Secondary shrub palette is to be used to diversify the primary palette and for specific areas or uses.

# SECONDARY PLANT PALETTE

## SHRUBS



*Wild Bergamot*  
*Monarda fistulosa*



*Creeping Lily Turf*  
*Liriope spicata*

# TERTIARY PLANT PALETTE

## SHRUBS



*Giant Hyssop*  
*Agastache 'Blue Fortune'*



*Milkweed*  
*Asclepias syriaca*



*Witch-hazel*  
*Hamamelis virginiana*



*Serviceberry*  
*Amelanchier arborea*



*Coneflower*  
*Echinacea purpurea*



*Blue Sage*  
*Salvia azurea*



*Wax Leaf Ligustrum*  
*Ligustrum japonicum*



*Emerald Green Arborvitae*  
*Thuja occidentalis 'Emerald Green'*

NOTES: Tertiary shrub palette increase the diversity, interest, and color of flowering plants. Can be used as accent plants.

# ADDITIONAL PRIMARY PLANT PALETTE

## GROUNDCOVER



*Lantana*

*Lantana* spp.\*

*\*Prioritize purple for school pride*



*Asian Jasmine*

*Trachelospermum asiaticum*

# IRRIGATION

## IRRIGATION SYSTEM STANDARDS

Stephen F. Austin State University is primarily a Rainbird irrigation campus. Controllers are transitioned to Wi-Fi compatibility when replaced.

### **Rainbird valves:**

- 100-PEB and 100-PESB: 1" NPT
- 150-PEB and 150-PESB: 1 1/2 " NPT
- 200-PEB and 200-PEBT: 2" NPT

### **Rainbird spray heads:**

These heads are primarily for small turf areas and possibly for shrub beds.

- 1800 series

### **Rainbird rotor heads:**

These are for larger turf areas with increased spray radius.

- 3500 and/or 5000 series

### **Athletic Fields:**

These rotors have an increased spray radius for larger areas.

- Falcon 6504 model

### **Rainbird controllers:**

Can be controlled by smart phone or i-Pad out in the field.

- ESP-ME3 series Wi-Fi compatible
- ESP-LXME2 + Pro Smart

### **Rainbird Wireless Rain/Freeze sensor:**

Runs on batteries and will keep system from running during rainfall periods.

- WR2RFC-48

### **Pipe:**

- Schedule 40 pipe and fittings

### **Wire:**

- 16 gauge wire

**No drip lines should be used on campus** due to ongoing issues with squirrels chewing the tubes, which creates a significant maintenance burden to keep irrigation lines repaired and functioning properly. SFA will transition to shrub heads in existing beds as needed.